

Application No. 10/086,351
Amendment dated December 19, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2005

Docket No. 1232-4831

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-17, 19 and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10 and 17 are independent. All of the pending claims stand rejected. By this amendment, claims 10 and 17 are amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 10, 12-17, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner indicates that "said determining step" in claim 10 and "said determined step" in claim 17 lack antecedent basis.

Each of independent claims 10 and 17 is amended to recite --said identifying step-- as shown above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 10, 12-17, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-17, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,687,331 to Volk et al. ("Volk"), and in further view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0124263 to Yokomizo ("Yokomizo").

The Examiner indicates, *inter alia*, that Volk discloses setting means for setting a selection order for the objects identified by the identification means. The Examiner refers to the

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"scroll arrows" 822a and 822b as shown in Fig. 8B along with relevant portions of the text of Volk as disclosing the setting means. (Page 3 of the Office Action)

Yokomizo is cited as disclosing "identifying a plurality of objects from the multimedia contents while the multimedia contents are displayed on the screen. The Examiner indicates that page 1, paragraph 8, main screen and sub screen, ref. S38 of Fig. 10B of Yokomizo teaches the identifying aspect of the present invention. (Page 3 of the Office Action)

One of the aspects of the present invention as featured in independent claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus having "identifying means" that identifies a plurality of objects from the multimedia contents while the multimedia contents are displayed on a display screen. The information processing apparatus of the present invention then "sets" an order of the identified objects, and controls the identified objects to be selected in turn according to the selection order set by the setting means. Other independent claims 10 and 17 recites similar features to claim 1 as discussed herein.

First of all, the scroll arrows 822a and 822b of Volk are not equivalent to the setting means as in claim 1. A portion of the specification of the present application describes that "[s]ensor objects are extracted from the BIFS description list to generate a list table 203a shown in Fig. 5 (S402). Upon generating this list table, the selection order of sensor objects is determined." (page 14, lines 4-7 of the original specification) With the features of the setting means of the present invention, the selection order of the objects such as "START", "STOP", and "EXIT" as shown in Fig. 1 may be set in different order in response to the input signal from the buttons 102, 103. For an example, upon multiple clickings on the button 102, a selection

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order may be "START" → "STOP" → "EXIT". In a different set up, the selection order may be "STOP" → "START" → "EXIT" etc.

In contrast, the scroll arrows of Volk, however, does not set any order by which a selection can be changed as required by claim 1 as discussed above. A portion of Volk merely describes that "a modal control such as a spin dial has an internal selection that the viewer can change by using the thumbpad on the remote." (col. 28, lines 60-62 of Volk)

Secondly, Applicants understand that Yokomizo discloses an Internet DTV systems in which the broadcast station delivers a program, with a description of a button to designate a second program for browsing a content. However, as Applicants understands it, Yokomizo fails to show or suggest specific teachings on how the content can be browsed, c.g., as specifically recited in claim 1 of the present invention. The cited portion of Yokomizo by the Examiner merely describes that "one program is constructed with the main screen and the sub screen correlated with each other." (page 1, paragraph [0008] of Yokomizo) The same paragraph also discloses that some interactive activities such as mail order or answering questionnaire can be performed through the sub-screen. However, Applicants believe that simply implying the interactive activities in a TV system does not necessarily teaches the specific control as recited in claim 1, i.e., identifying a plurality of objects, setting an order of the identified objects and controlling the selection order etc.

Accordingly, each of independent claims 1, 10 and 17 is believed neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited art of records (i.e., Volk and Yokomizo), either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 10 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants have not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicants however reserve the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

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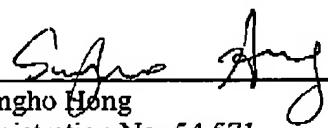
No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4831). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: December 19, 2005

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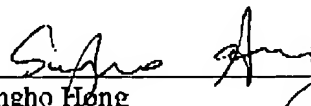
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